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Handbook of Education Policy Research Savior Czar Torment &  
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(Savior, Rogue, and Knight) Se pulmates Middlesex Centurion Suki in  
the Snow Spud Defaced Amber Highlander Woodland Magic 1: Fox  
Cub Rescue Theirs to Protect Knight

Book 3 in the USA Today Bestselling Impossible Series--Can be read as a standalone. I can't afford to make mistakes. When you work for the FBI, mistakes can cost lives. Busting BDSM club Decadence, drug trafficking is my chance to prove myself. And no pushy Dominant is going to throw me off my game, not even sinfully club owner Derek Carter. I have to keep him close in order to uncover his secrets, but keeping him close to my body while getting my heart is proving more difficult than I ever imagined. He might be my biggest mistake yet. Note: This book contains scorching hot scenes of BDSM! When Shay Greene finally decides to give in to her long-harbored erotic desires and explore the world of kink, she is thrilled to encounter two dominant men who surpass even her wildest fantasies. The only problem: Lucas Cross and Jonathan Mannington turn out to be the billionaire partners who own Augustan Technologies, the company that has just hired her. Shay is more

and she tries to suppress her sexual desires and maintain a professional front. But the two Doms have other plans for her; each of the men tries to win her submission for himself. A long, friendly rivalry becomes much more as Shay becomes caught up in their power-play. Lucas is darkly alluring, carefully calculating and ruthlessly bends her to his will. Jonathan is spontaneous, using his body as he pleases. As the men show Shay what true submission is, she finds it impossible to separate sex from her emotions. She realizes that she has to make a choice, and her heart knows who she wants. But when Shay finally does make her decision, she finds out there are consequences for her actions. Can she escape with her life and her life intact? It's South Africa 1990. Two major events are about to happen: the release of Nelson Mandela and, more importantly, it's Spud Milton's first year at an elite boys only prep school. Cursed with parents from well beyond the lunatic fringe, a senile granny, and a dormitory full of strange characters, Spud has his hands full trying to adapt to his new home. Surrounded by characters such as Gecko, Rambo, Rain Man and Mad Dog, Spud takes his tentative steps along the path to manhood. (The path, it seems, is a rather long road.) Armed with only his wits and his diary, Spud takes us from illegal night swimming to the red-hot furnace of a cricket pitch, from ghostbusting to a catastrophic family vacation. It also invites us into the mind of a boy struggling to come to terms with a strange new world; a boy whose eyes are being opened to love, friendship and complete insanity. A dark romance from USA Today bestselling author Julia Sykes Carmen Ronaldo is my enemy and my obsession. I'll conquer her and make her mine. For years, Carmen has hated me. I seduced her to learn her family's secrets, and I used those secrets to fracture the Ronaldo cartel. I took half of her territory and made myself a king, but I've never been fully satisfied.

in my victory. I've never experienced regret. The emotions that weaker men don't affect me. Until her. I've waited far too long to claim Carmen for myself. My feisty little kitten might hate me for taking her as my captive, but she'll surrender herself to me. I'll protect her from all her enemies. Except me. My cage will be her refuge, my rules her fortress. Carmen is no longer my enemy. She's just mine. Keywords: dark romance, capture fantasy, antihero, kidnapping, romantic suspense, standalone MfM ménage roman from USA Today bestselling author Julia Sykes Two darkly domineering alpha males. One sets my body on fire. The other makes me tremble. And they swear they won't let me go. My ordinary college sophomore becomes extraordinary when Joseph storms my world and sweeps me off my feet. Our intense connection is too impossible to be real, like a wonderful dream. Until it becomes a nightmare. Drugged. Kidnapped. When I wake up, I find myself trapped in the arms of the man who was supposed to be my fiercest protector. My sweet first love is a criminal, the son of a powerful mafia boss. And his best friend Marco—the terrifying, heavily-muscled man who abducted me—is a brutal enforcer. They say they can't let me go, or their enemies might hurt me. Despite everything, my heart belongs to Joseph, and I can't help surrendering to the fiery chemistry between us. Marco's rigid rules infuriate me, but his steady onyx stare and stern orders make something darker than anger burn low in my belly. They swear they've kidnapped me for my own protection, but will staying close to my alluring criminal captor put me in more danger than ever? Keywords: MfM ménage, Dark romance, mafia romance, kidnapping, romantic suspense, new adult The first flash mob Ian puts together himself is a sixty-plus person four-minute pillow fight in a department store. His friend Oswald is thrilled with the event, but Julia, the one Ian really wants to impress

is still convinced that flash mobs are stupid. While Ian tries to prove Julia wrong by initiating flash mobs with political impact, Julia is busy waging war with the strict new principal at school. When she goes too far and gets herself suspended, Ian sees an opportunity for a relevant and persuasive flash mob. Rich... dangerous... disfigurement had her kidnapped to fix the one thing that has kept me hidden from society my whole life. My face. But, as the days go by, she's a part of me no woman has ever touched. My heart. I'm drawn to her. And I can tell she's drawn to me, too, though she fights it in the longing glances and the quickening of her breath, even as she holds her down. Lily. They call me Monster through no fault of my own, but she's the only one who's ever made me feel like a man.

Additional Keywords: dark romance, romantic suspense, alpha male, kidnapping, fairytale, retelling, birthmark, sexy, Marissa Farrar, Series, Trilogy, abduction This collection includes Sweet Captive, Claiming My Sweet Captive (Andrés' P.O.V.), and Captive Ever After.

Samantha... I don't like to be touched. I'm the hacker-geek goddess of the FBI. When I'm hiding behind my screen, I'm a safe distance from everyone; isolated, powerful. No man has ever touched me, but when I'm captured by Colombian drug lord Andrés Morán, I no longer have the right to refuse. He's scarred and scary, and his cruel brother has tasked him with breaking me. I try to fight, but I can't escape his strong arms and harsh discipline. He demands I accept his touch, and I can't help but respond to his masterful manipulations. The longer I remain trapped with him, the more I come to suspect that I'm not the only captive in his brother's hands. Andrés' scars go deeper than the wicked furrows carved into his flesh, his pain reflected in the dark demands he imposes upon me. My obsession is twisted and wrong, but maybe I'm twisted, too. Do I want to be rescued from him? Or is he the one who truly needs me?

saving? Andrés... My pretty hostage possesses a stubborn streak and a sharp mind, but her clever brain is no match for my iron will. I have nothing to claim her, no matter how many deviant punishments I have to devise for her. No one will ever touch her again--especially not my cruel brother. Samantha is mine to keep and protect. Mine to play with and punish. All mine. I need redemption. I need vengeance. Dimitri Abramovich has to pay for what he did to me. I've tracked the head of the Russian mafia to London, and I'm close to taking him out. If he doesn't take me first. We're engaged in a game of cat and mouse. Unfortunately, I'm pretty sure I'm the mouse. When my quest for revenge causes me to cross paths with sexy MI5 agent Hugh Sullivan, I have no choice but to seduce him to keep him blind to my mission. But I can't keep my operation secret forever, and he won't stand for my reckless vigilante methods. If I want to stay on top, he demands my complete honesty... and my obedience. A teenage girl wakes up with no memory of who she is or where she comes from. The only clues to her identity are a dead mobile phone in her pocket and a beautiful amber necklace around her neck. Suddenly, 'Amber' has a brand-new life, a brand-new name and a whole lot of questions. Disturbed by strange visions and powers, she struggles to understand the rules that everyone else seems to know. How can Amber make sense of the person she seems to be? Does she even want to be that person any more? And by falling in love with her new friend Clayton, is she breaking the one rule that really matters? Three standalone romantic suspense novels in the USA Today Bestselling Impossible Series—*Savior*, *Rogue*, and *Knight Savior* With my life falling apart around me, I know I don't deserve a man like Clayton Vaughn. The impossibly sexy FBI agent promises he'll protect me from the vicious Latin Kings, but good things like Clayton don't happen to damaged girls like me. Despite my reluctance, he insists on keeping me close.

He grants me the sweet release I can only find in submission, am quickly becoming addicted to him. Can I learn to trust in his and protection? Or will my life be claimed by the dangers that surround me? Rogue I can't afford to make mistakes. When you for the FBI, mistakes can cost lives. Busting club Decadence for trafficking is my chance to prove myself. I'm not going to allow arrogant, Dominant man to throw me off my game. Not even the notorious club owner, Derek Carter. He's the criminal I'm investigating, and I have to keep him close in order to uncover secrets. But keeping him close to my body while guarding my proving more difficult than I ever imagined. He might be my big mistake yet. Knight Abducted. Drugged. Broken. I am plaything, possession. If I did ever have a name, I don't remember it now. I don't have names. But then, my new Master rescued me and took me into his care. He protects me from the sadistic madman who is determined to steal me back from him. Master's touch keeps me grounded. His control keeps me grounded in reality. I am utterly devoted to my savior, but his brand of rescue might leave me more broken than ever. Do I have a hope of finding freedom when he refuses to give it to my heart? Or is this new form of captivity exactly what I need to survive? A dark romance from USA Today bestselling author Julie Sykes My pretty little captive thinks she can run from me. She doesn't understand how ruthless I truly am... Guarding my lovely hostage has become my obsession. I protect Marisol from the vicious men of the brutal cartel, including myself. I've kept the promise I made to my boss on the night of her capture: No one touches her. But she's running from me at the first opportunity, escaping the safe cage I built for her. I've denied myself for far too long. She's made the mistake of believing I'm gentle and forgiving. There's nothing gentle about what I intend to do to her once I catch her, and she'll have to

my forgiveness. I've spent endless nights imagining so many delicious ways to torment her. Now that she's defied the cart, indulge all of my twisted desires. I'll never let her escape me and Marisol is mine. Keywords: dark romance, capture fantasy, anti-kidnapping, romantic suspense, standalone I don't deserve her: sweet, perfect angel with the sweet, perfect life. She doesn't know anything about my violent past. But if I could just touch her, touch her, then maybe I could pretend her perfect world could be mine. I know I should stay away, but when she looks to me for protection, her fate is sealed. Ashlyn will be mine. A woman on the run... My Master is dead. He was my whole world. He was also my protector. Without his ownership, I've become a pawn to be used by the bloodthirsty members of the Russian Mafia. To survive, I need to outwit them. If the man who helped kill my Master doesn't find me first. A man on the hunt... She put a bullet in my chest to protect the monster she called Master. I'd thought she was a victim, but she's a deadly adversary. Now, I'll stop at nothing to get my revenge and bring her to justice if I have to chase her halfway around the world. Forbidden attraction... When MI5 agent Finlay MacClellan hunts for me, sparks fly. Obsessive hatred turns to burning desire and lust. Both struggle to use it to their advantage, wielding desire as a weapon. But when Finlay discovers the truth of Alicia's dark past, can hate turn to love? After a lifetime of being sheltered, I decide to study abroad in St. Petersburg to push myself out of my comfort zone. Dimitri definitely fits the bill. He's gorgeous, mysterious, and everything I never knew I wanted. I'm willing to give him my innocence, but he demands more. When it's time for me to return to America, he won't let me go. My lover becomes my captor. He wants all of me, even if that means pushing me to my breaking point. He won't stop until he owns my body and soul. A dark romance from

USA Today bestselling author Julia Sykes "She's yours now." With those three words, my boss gives me a gift: permission to kidnap and keep the woman I've wanted for years. Ever since we were teenagers, I've denied my desire for Sofia. Despite her father's involvement in running our cocaine empire, Caesar Hernández has carefully sheltered her from the brutal realities of our world. She's always been far too innocent and pure for me to drag her out of her normal life and into my depravities. But Caesar chose to betray my rule and boss. He'll have to prove his loyalty once again if he doesn't want harm to come to his beloved daughter. I have her now, and he's aware of my sadistic proclivities. I tried to save her from this, but I can't fight my savage nature when Sofia is in my home and under my command. She'll learn to obey me unquestioningly if she wants to earn any of her freedoms back. Sofia's going to be my good girl, fulfilling all the dark fantasies I've suppressed for years. I'll do whatever it takes to keep my pretty hostage. If anyone tries to take her from me, I'll start a war to protect my most precious possession. Sofia is mine, and I'll never let her go. Keywords: dark romance, capture fantasy, antihero, kidnapping, romantic suspense, stand-alone. A dark romance from USA Today bestselling author Julia Sykes. I don't like to be touched. I'm the hacker-geek-goddess of the FBI. When I'm hiding behind my screen, I'm a safe distance from everyone; isolated, powerful. No man has ever touched me, but when I'm captured by Colombian drug lord Andrés Moreno, I no longer have the right to refuse. He's scarred and scary, and his cruel demands. Cristian has tasked him with breaking me. I try to fight, but I can't escape his strong arms and harsh discipline. He demands that I accept his touch, and my virgin body can't help but respond to his masterful manipulations. The longer I remain trapped with him, the more I come to suspect that I'm not the only captive in his bro-



home. Andrés' scars go deeper than the wicked furrows carved into his flesh, his pain reflected in the dark demands he imposes upon me. His obsession is twisted and wrong, but maybe I'm twisted, too. Do I want to be rescued from him? Or is he the one who truly needs saving? Keywords: dark romance, capture fantasy, antihero, kidnapping, romantic suspense, standalone I was sold like property on the day of my father's funeral. I'd thought his death would set me free, but I'd never truly understood what it meant to have all my freedoms stripped away. Until that day, I'd been living in a child's fantasy. Then, my brother sells me, and I don't have the luxury of being a child anymore. I'm taken to Vicente Rodríguez's estate, kept as his plaything. When I'm old enough, he'll claim my innocence. My only reprieve from my hellish reality is in the stolen companionship I share with his son, Adrián. Sometimes, I think he hates me. He can be cold and cruel, his burning green eyes glowing when he looks at me. But the longer I'm trapped in his home, the more heated those looks become, and not just with hatred. There's something burning within me, too. My innocence is no longer mine to give, but Adrián might be the first one to claim it for himself. *Stolen Innocence* is the prequel to *Stealing Beauty*. MfM ménage à trois romance from USA Today bestselling author Julia Sykes Two domineering alpha males. They're mine, and I'm theirs. We'll be together forever, a new family. We're supposed to be free: Joseph, Marco, and me. I'm not their captive anymore, and my men have escaped their criminal lives. Our new home in Boston is blissfully peaceful and safe. Until it's not safe anymore. Joseph's father, a powerful mafia boss, and a ruthless usurper intends to demonstrate his viciousness by targeting Dominic Russo's only son. It doesn't take long for this new enemy to figure out my fierce men's greatest weakness: me. All we wanted was a happy, normal life, but the

love will do anything to protect me. I can't bear to watch Mar back into the darkness that'd nearly swallowed his soul before escaped. And my heart would break if Joseph—who's always been good to his core—is forced to do something terrible in order to keep me safe. My men are determined to protect me, but I'll protect them too. They won't allow me to be hurt, and I won't allow them to be broken. We're a family. The three of us. Forever. Note: *Their* is not a standalone novel. It should be read after *The King* and *The Dom*. Keywords: MfM ménage, Daddy romance, mafia romance, kidnapping, romantic suspense, new adult A life of duty. FBI agent Clayton Vaughn has dedicated himself to protecting others, seeking to atone for a past mistake. His mission has been enough to sustain him, until he meets her: the vibrant but vulnerable woman who makes him hunger for so much more after one stolen night. A woman worth saving... Rose doesn't believe that happy endings exist for damaged women like her. Frightened by the connection her brother has with Clayton, she flees and tries to shut him out of her life. But when Agent Vaughn shows up at her apartment to arrest her brother for his involvement with the violent Latin Kings, he refuses to let her run from him. Her brother's criminal activities have put her directly in the path of danger, and Clayton won't leave her undefended. Her heart and her life on the line... Afraid of being vulnerable, Rose tries to resist her attraction to Clayton. But the stubborn agent discovers that she responds to a firm hand and decides to do whatever it takes to keep her safe. Even if that means dominating her to draw out her submissive nature and soothe her reckless defiance. Can Rose learn to trust in his love and protection before it's too late? The Congressional Record is the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress, published daily when Congress is in session. The Congressional

Record began publication in 1873. Debates for sessions prior to 1873 are recorded in The Debates and Proceedings in the Congress of the United States (1789-1824), the Register of Debates in Congress (1824-1837), and the Congressional Globe (1833-1873) FBI agent Kennedy Carver knows he's found his perfect submissive when he meets feisty investigative reporter Carina O'Connor. But when Kennedy discovers that she is planning an exposé on his alternative lifestyle, he is determined to leave her firmly in his past. Even her betrayal can't keep them apart, and when the woman who has haunted Kennedy's dreams for years shows up at his favorite deviant club, he can't help but allure her. As they rediscover their burning attraction, an enemy lurks in the shadows, hunting Carina. Can Kennedy save her life, or his own heart? Or will the loss of both destroy him forever? M is a ménage romance from USA Today bestselling author Julia Sykes featuring darkly domineering alpha males. They say I don't have to choose between them. They both want me. Together. The three of us. I was meant to be theirs: Joseph, my sweet first love, and Marco, his sternly intimidating best friend. I know they're dangerous men, but being with them doesn't feel wrong. When they hold me in their arms, I feel safe, cherished. I'm still their captive, but I'm no longer certain I want to be free of them. They swear they only kidnapped me for my own protection, and after a terrifying attack by one of their enemies, I'm starting to believe them. If I give myself to them, can my former criminal captors protect me? Or is their world too dangerous for even their strong arms to shield me from harm? Keywords: Ménage, Daddy romance, mafia romance, kidnapping, romantic suspense, new adult Abducted. Drugged. Broken. I am playing for possession. If I did ever have a name, I don't remember it now. I don't have names. But then, my new Master rescued me and took me into his care. He protects me from the sadistic madman who is

determined to steal me back from him. Master's touch keeps me grounded. His control keeps me grounded in reality. I am utterly devoted to my savior, but his brand of rescue might leave me more broken than ever. Do I have a hope of finding freedom when he refuses to let me go? Or is this new form of captivity exactly what I need to survive? One passionate night with a devastatingly handsome stranger. That's all it was supposed to be. When my alluring man turns out to be one of my instructors at Quantico, my life becomes far too complicated. I'm training as an FBI agent, but he has other forms of training in mind. Our relationship could cost both our careers, but I can't help myself. He's broken, and I want to be his salvation. In return, he says he wants to protect me, to keep me safe. But can he save me when my new job puts me directly in the line of danger? Book 8 in the USA Today Bestselling Impossible Series. Can be read as a standalone. After a lifetime of being sheltered, I decide to study abroad in St. Petersburg to push myself out of my comfort zone. Dimitri definitely fits the bill. He's gorgeous, mysterious, everything I never knew I wanted. I'm willing to give him my innocence, but he demands more. When it's time for me to return to America, he won't let me go. My lover becomes my captor. He takes all of me, even if that means pushing me to my breaking point. He won't stop until he owns my body and soul. Warning: This is a dark story with themes that some readers may find upsetting. Proceed with caution. Spanning eight decades and chronicling the wild ride of a Greek-American family through the vicissitudes of the twentieth century, Jeffrey Eugenides' witty, exuberant novel on a high level tells a traditional story about three generations of a fantastically absurd, lovable immigrant family -- blessed and cursed with generous doses of tragedy and high comedy. But there's a provocative twist. Cal, the narrator -- also Callie -- is a

hermaphrodite. And the explanation for this takes us spooling time, through a breathtaking review of the twentieth century, when the Turks sacked Smyrna and Callie's grandparents fled for their lives. Back to a tiny village in Asia Minor where two lovers, one with one rare genetic mutation, set our narrator's life in motion. Middlesex is a grand, utterly original fable of crossed bloodlines, the intricacies of gender, and the deep, untidy promptings of desire. A brilliant exploration of divided people, divided families, divided cities and nations -- the connected halves that make up our world.

An enemies-to-lovers mafia romance from USA Today bestselling author Julia Sykes. He'll do anything to make my father pay. Including kidnapping me to exact his revenge. Max Ferrara, a ruthless Mafia prince, a monster out of my worst nightmares, not his scarred face that makes him a beast. My father, the man who sent most of his family to prison. I'm the key to his revenge. But my innocence sparks his obsession. The chemistry we share is undeniable, and I can't help being drawn to the damaged criminal who watches me from the shadows. His pain calls to something inside me, and I'm quickly becoming addicted to his dangerous presence in my life. When other bad men threaten me, my possessive stalker proves to be my dark protector. With every stolen kiss, it gets harder for the man who should be my most fearsome enemy. If our families discover our relationship, we'll both suffer painful consequences. Our love could be our ruin. One of Amazon's Best Romances of January 2022! A Korean-American adoptee fights to stay with the one she loves while coming to terms with her new identity in this enthralling romantic drama and sequel to Heart and Seoul. USA Today bestselling author Jen Frederick. When Hara Wilson lands in Seoul to find her birth mother, she doesn't plan on falling in love with the first man she lays eyes on, but Choi Yujun is irre-

If his broad shoulders and dimples weren't enough, Choi Yujun is the most genuine, decent, gorgeous guy to exist. Too bad he's also her stepbrother. Fate brought her to the Choi doorstep but the girl's family comes with burdens. A job in her mother's company has her of endless company dinners and super resentful coworkers. A new country means learning a new language which twenty-five year old Hara is finding to be a Herculean task. A forbidden love means having to choose between her birth family or Choi Yujun. All Hara wanted was to find a place to belong in this world—but in order to have it all, she'll have to risk it all. A dark romance from USA Today bestselling author Julia Sykes My sweet captive doesn't like to be touched. She will learn. She no longer has the right to refuse. She flinches at the sight of my scarred face, but the way she whimpers and trembles makes perverse pleasure stir within me. I captured a little FBI agent while she was trying to take down my drug empire and I can't allow that. My pretty hostage possesses a stubbornness and sharp mind, but her clever brain is no match for my iron will. I will stop at nothing to claim her virgin body, no matter how many punishments I have to devise for her. No one will ever touch her again--especially not my cruel brother. Samantha is mine to keep, to protect. Mine to play with and punish. All mine. Note: This book can be read as a standalone dark romance novel. Keywords: dark romance, capture fantasy, antihero, kidnapping, romantic suspense, standalone I don't deserve her: the sweet, perfect angel with a perfect sweet, perfect life. She doesn't know anything about my violence. But if I could just touch her, taste her, then maybe I could pre-empt my perfect world could be mine, too. I know I should stay away, but when she looks to me for protection, her fate is sealed. Ashlyn is mine. Note: The Dom is the prequel to The Daddy and The Dom.

published by Routledge for the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Educational policy continues to be of major concern. Policy debates about economic growth and national competitiveness, for example, commonly focus on the importance of human capital and a highly educated workforce. Defining the theoretical boundaries and methodological approaches of education policy research are the two primary themes of this comprehensive AERA-sponsored Handbook. Organized into seven sections, the Handbook focuses on (1) disciplinary foundations of education policy, (2) methodological perspectives, (3) the policy process, resources, management, and organization, (4) teaching and learning policy, (5) actors and institutions, and (6) education access and differentiation. Drawing from multiple disciplines, the Handbook's over one hundred authors address three central questions: What policy issues and questions have oriented current policy research? What research strategies and methods have proven most fruitful? What issues, questions, and methods will drive future policy research? Topics such as early childhood education, school choice, access to higher education, teacher accountability, and testing and measurement cut across the 63 chapters in the volume. The perspectives surrounding these and other issues are objectively analyzed by leading authors and commentators. Each of the seven sections concludes with two commentaries by leading scholars in the field. The first commentary addresses the current state of policy design, and the second addresses the current state of policy research. This book is appropriate for scholars and graduate students working in the field of education policy, as well as the growing number of academic, government, and think-tank researchers engaged in policy research. For more information on the American Educational Research Association, please visit: <http://www.aera.net/>. An Impossible Series Short Story Sean a

Claudia Reynolds have been living in domestic bliss for nearly ten years, but Sean wants something more from her. He relishes pushing her limits, and he's decided to challenge her by taking her to Club Decadence to show her off. Claudia must face her lingering insecurities with her submission by demonstrating her devotion publicly. While the couple indulges in their power play, an old enemy comes back looking for revenge. Can Sean and Claudia get through the night with their love and lives intact? Princess Katie goes on a skiing holiday. Suki stows away in her luggage but soon misses her other kittens and tries to walk home. A dark romance from USA Today bestselling author Julia Sykes

Valentina hates me. That could stop me from kidnapping her, stealing her away for myself. She was brought into my home when we were teenagers, her virgin body sold to my father to pay a debt. She became the only light in my dark criminal underworld, and I couldn't help loving her. Now, ten years have separated us, and I've established my reputation as the most notorious, sadistic drug lord on the west coast. I don't care if she's grown to hate me. I'm finally powerful enough to claim Valentina for myself, and no one can stop me. A decade hasn't dulled my obsession need for her. I'll kill anyone who tries to take her from me. Valentina was always meant to be mine. Nothing will stop me from possessing her, body and soul. Keywords: dark romance, capture fantasy, antihero, kidnapping, romantic suspense, standalone

My beloved little sister was taken from me when we were children, sold by my sadistic brother to pay a family debt. I was too young to save her then. Too weak. Now, my body may be scarred, but I'm stronger than ever. With my clever little pet by my side, I'm capable of anything. Samantha has finally located my lost sister, Valentina. The cruel men who have held her captive for over a decade will suffer at my hands before I finally let them die. Valentina is closely guarded by a bodyguard



drug lord, and he won't let his possession go so easily. I want to leave Samantha behind, to keep her locked away somewhere safe while I dispose of my enemies. But my fierce pet refuses to be left behind and I know that I can't do this without her. My family is within my grasp, but rescuing Valentina might cost the life of the woman I love.

Note: This novella is not a standalone. It is a continuation of the Captive Series featuring Samantha and Andrés' dark romance. The suggested reading order for the Captive Series is as follows: Sweet Captivity Claiming My Heart, Sweet Captive Stealing Beauty Captive Ever After First in a magical adventure series for young readers (ages 6-8 approx) in which secretive little people repair damage and rewild local environments from bestselling author of Unicorn Academy series. The Keepers are a secretive tribe of little people who live in the middle of Whispering Woods, coming out at night to care for the countryside and rescue humans when humans (or Ruffins as they know them) are careless with the land. Young Keepers Cora and Jax have just finished school and are embarking on a trial, with several friends, to become fully-fledged Keepers. But their first venture out on their own ends in disaster when they become distracted with playing in the Ruffin children's playground instead of concentrating on the task they've been given. Can they ever be trusted to be Keepers in their own right? Given their last chance, they come across a fox cub with an injured paw. Can they heal it on their own so it can get back to its mother before the Ruffins discover it, or will they have to ask for help and get into even more trouble for being somewhere they had been banned from? "You are a monster, Max." Max Ferrara warned me that he was a monster, but I didn't want to believe him. I'd wanted to heal the scarred prince and surrender to the fiery chemistry we shared. Until he crushed my heart, and then I finally understood. He's loyal to his criminal family, no matter how much I wish he were a good man.

dug too deeply into the Ferraras' crimes, and now I have their attention. And the Bratva conspiracy Max warned me about? I'm starting to fear that it might be true. On the awful night he brought me, I told Max that we were done. But he won't leave me exposed and vulnerable to his Russian enemies. Or his own brutal family. I can't escape my dark protector's strong arms, and I'm no longer certain if I want to... A heartless man abducted me. He treats me like his plaything, but I suspect I mean more to him than idle amusement. He wants to make me his. The monster needs me. Trapped in the dark, I'm coming to need him, too. He sets my body on fire, and his touch is a tender mercy. Maybe he's not heartless, after all. Abandoned. Drugged. Broken. I am his plaything, a possession. If I did ever have a name, I don't remember it now. Slaves don't have names. But then my new Master rescued me and took me into his care. He protected me from the sadistic madman who is determined to steal me back from him. Master's touch keeps me sane. His control keeps me grounded in reality. I am utterly devoted to my savior, but his brand of rescue might leave me more broken than ever. Do I have a hope of finding freedom when he refuses to release my heart? Or is this new captivity exactly what I need to survive?

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